

PATENT

I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to Box Patent Application, the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Date 12/14/00 Tracy Gutscher  
Tracy Gutscher

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Anirudha Phatak  
Filed : December 14, 2000  
For : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONDUCTING AN AUCTION  
FOR RESOURCES

Docket No. : 31641-8001US1

Box Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Amend the specification by inserting a new section before the "Technical Field" as follows:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority from United States Provisional Application No. 60/170,836, filed on December 14, 1999, which is incorporated herein by reference.--

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the application in view of this preliminary amendment. If the Examiner has any questions or matters that can be